



BEAUFORT COUNTY
LAND PRESERVATION
NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 2025

Hey there, nature friends! Welcome to the Land Preservation Department's monthly newsletter! Thank you all so much for your interest in our beautiful parks/preserves, as well as our environmental education program! We are so grateful to work with such a wonderful community of passionate and curious individuals who love the environment just as much as we do. Thank you again for sharing the love!

For this month's newsletter you can find the April schedule for our upcoming environmental education programs, a recap of last month's happenings, an update on our new citizen science project, and a bit about this month's featured local. We hope you enjoy this read and feel inspiration to join us the next time we take it outside!

April Nature Programs

All programs are free and open to the public with no registration required. For outdoor programs, please bring comfortable walking shoes, a water bottle, bug spray, sunscreen, and binoculars to ensure a safe and fun trip.



APRIL NATURE PROGRAMS



4.2	Birding at Crystal Lake	8:30am - 10:30am
4.3	Trail Talk at Fort Fremont	11am - 12:30pm
4.10	Gator Gander at Crystal Lake	1pm - 2pm
4.16	Birding at Whitehall	8:30am - 10am
4.17	Trail Talk at Altamaha T.H.P.	11am - 1pm
4.23	Birding at Fort Frederick	8:30am - 10am
4.27	Critters of Crystal Lake	10am - 11am
4.27	Herpetology Housekeeping at Crystal Lake	1pm - 2pm
4.30	Birding at Widgeon Point	9am - 10:30am

All programs are FREE to the public, with no registration required.
Please email any questions to the County Naturalist at
destiney.rains@bcgov.net

Keep an eye on the Beaufort County [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages for important weekly updates regarding individual programs.

March Recap

Last month we spent plenty of time exploring the County's public properties and had some great field findings! The Yellow-crowned Night Herons have officially made their way back to their nests at Crystal Lake Park, Swallow-tailed Kites and Glossy Ibises have been spotted flying over, and we survived the dreadful pollen storm of 2025. We're excited to

see what April brings!



Birds of a Feather

Curious to see what different species of birds we're spotting all around Beaufort County? Click the links below to explore our ebird checklists from our public bird walks last month!

[Fort Frederick - March 7th](#)

[Crystal Lake Park - March 12th](#)

[Widgeon Point - March 19th](#)

[Whitehall Park - March 26](#)

Destiney and this wonderful group of ladies enjoyed a beautiful morning while birding at Crystal Lake Park on March 12th, 2025.

Beaufort County Litter Pickup

The Land Preservation Department does a lot more than just environmental education programs! Early last month our department coordinated with Beaufort Litter Patrol, a local volunteer group dedicated to keeping our community clean, and successfully cleaned over a 1,000lbs of litter from one of our newly acquired properties on Boundary Street.



Some of the notable items collected include a television, a whole toilet, and multiple discarded tires.

Special thanks to Ashton and her volunteers with Beaufort Litter Patrol. We certainly could not have done this without you!

Find Beaufort Litter Patrol on [Facebook](#) to find out how you can get involved!



PPD-102

Help document this scene over time by uploading to chronolog, a photo monitoring tool powered by people like you



Terms and conditions apply. Learn more at chronolog.io/terms



Shoreline Snapshots: Update

Whitehall Park has a new Chronolog!

With the introduction of Chronolog stations, we can monitor sea level rise and marsh erosion through photo submissions. Each station has directions on how to take and submit photos, so you can help monitor local ecosystems while getting a nice scenic view.

Sites are located at Altamaha Town Heritage, Widgeon Point preserves, and Whitehall Park!

[Click here to see our shoreline snapshots!](#)

Respect the Locals

Spring has arrived in the Lowcountry, bringing warmer days, blooming flowers, and renewed activity across our natural environment. As temperatures rise, many creatures become more active after the cooler winter months, including the majestic

American Alligator. Like all other reptiles that reside with us here in Beaufort

County, they spend their days basking in the sun to regulate their body temperature and gain the energy to spend their evenings and early mornings to move about in search of food and mates.



While it can be exciting to see these ancient reptiles in the wild, it's important to keep a few things in mind:

- Always observe alligators from a distance and never approach
- Never feed or harass them
- Avoid swimming or playing near areas with known Alligator activity
- Keep pets on a leash and away from the water's edge

For more information about the American Alligator, watch our featured episode of Take It Outside!



To report any illegal Alligator activity such as feeding or harassing, please contact the S.C. Department of Natural Resources at:

1-800-922-5431

Land Preservation Department's Public Properties



Are you interested in visiting any of the Land Preservation Department's passive parks and public preserves? Click on the story map image on the left to virtually explore properties both North and South of the Broad River.

To sign up for more news from Beaufort County Administration, click [here](#).

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